

# ***DANESS***

## ***Dynamic Analysis of Nuclear Energy System Strategies***

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Office of Science Laboratory  
Operated by The University of Chicago*



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  - Architecture
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# Objective

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- *An easy-to-use and quick tool for the technical-economic assessment of nuclear energy systems in a macro-economic energy development context*

## Scope:

- *Integrated process model of nuclear energy systems*
- *PC/Mac platform, < 15 min calculation time*
- *For use by experts, consultants, policy-makers, students, ...*

# ***Background***

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- **Market**
  - Future of nuclear power ? Economics
  - Government actions ? Direct / indirect policy tools
  - Increasing LCA / Externalities approach
- **Technology Roadmaps**
  - Interest for symbiotic nuclear energy systems
  - Technical and economic assessment
- **R&D management**
  - Parameter scoping for R&D resource allocation

*Integrated Process Model (IPM) needed*

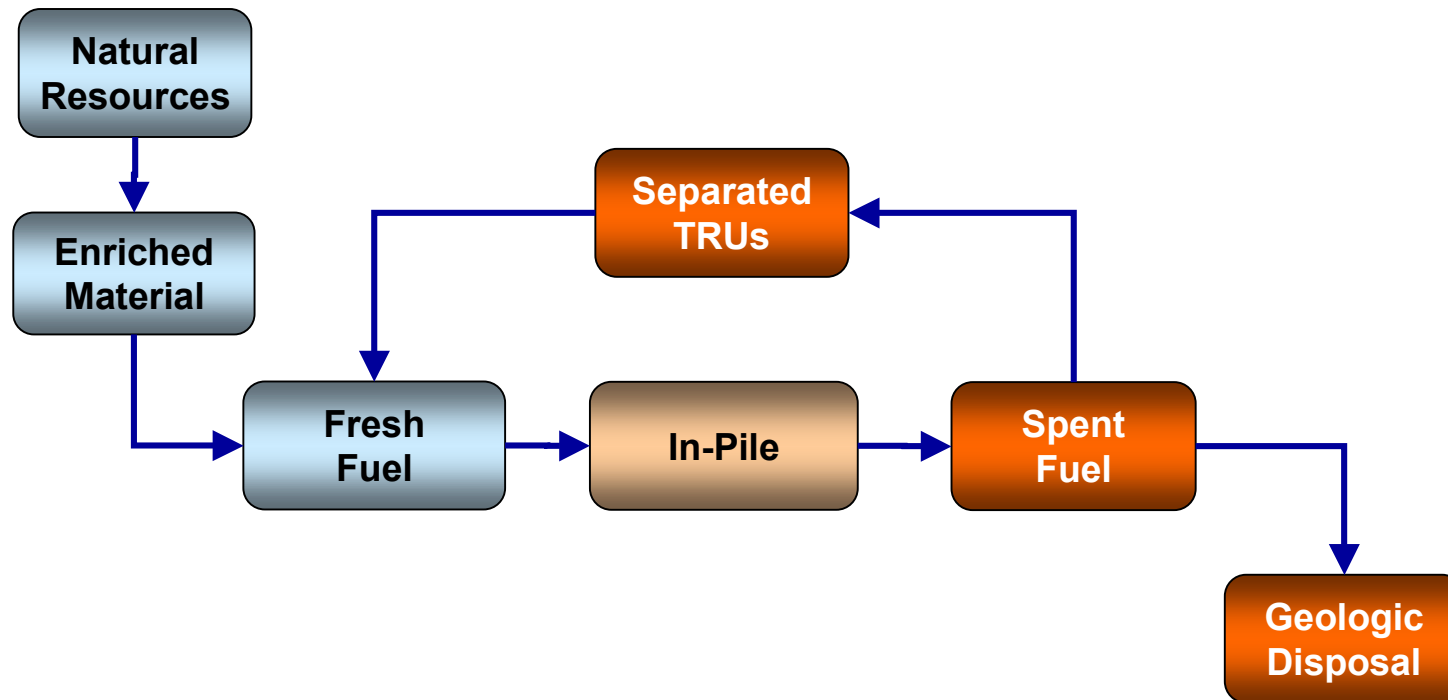
# ***Several initiatives asked for a nuclear IPM development***

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- **Generation-IV**
  - Fuel Cycle Cross-Cut Group
    - *DYMOND (ANL)*
- **Advanced Fuel Cycle Initiative**
  - Evaluation of different Tier-1 and Tier-2 options
- **OECD/NEA, ‘Comparative assessment of ADS and FR in advanced nuclear fuel cycles’, 2002**
- **MIT, ‘The Future of Nuclear Power’, July 2003**
  - *“The DOE R&D program should ... establish a large nuclear system analysis, modelling, and simulation project, including collection of engineering data, to assess alternative nuclear fuel cycle deployments”*
- **EC 6<sup>th</sup> FWP**
- **Industry**

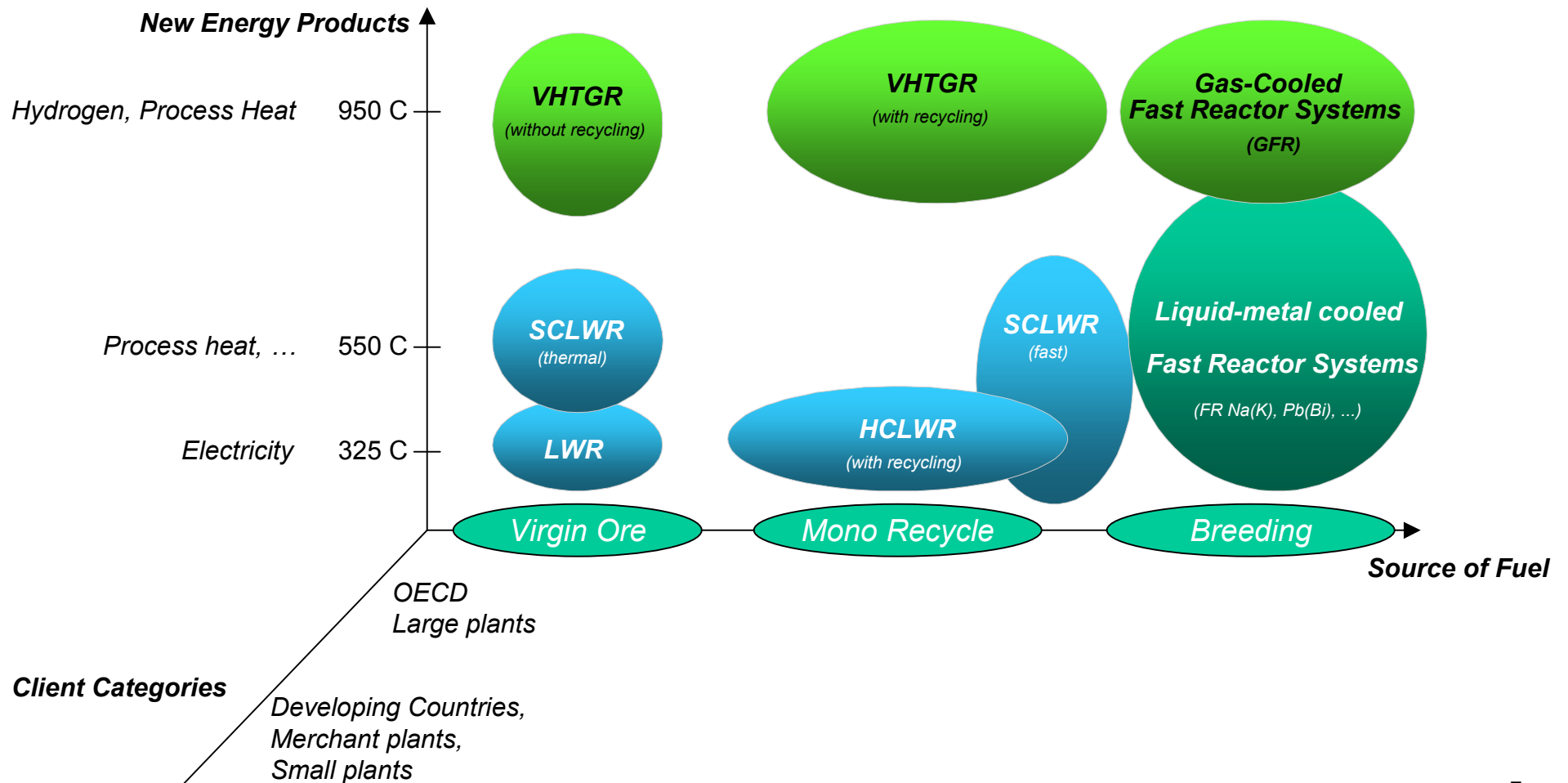
# *Many options exist for nuclear energy system design*

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- A lot of studies exist to approach this from a purely physics point-of-view
  - Mainly in equilibrium situation
- Only recently, growing interest for an economic point-of-view in a deregulated market

# Evolving Role for Nuclear Energy



# ***DANESS scope***

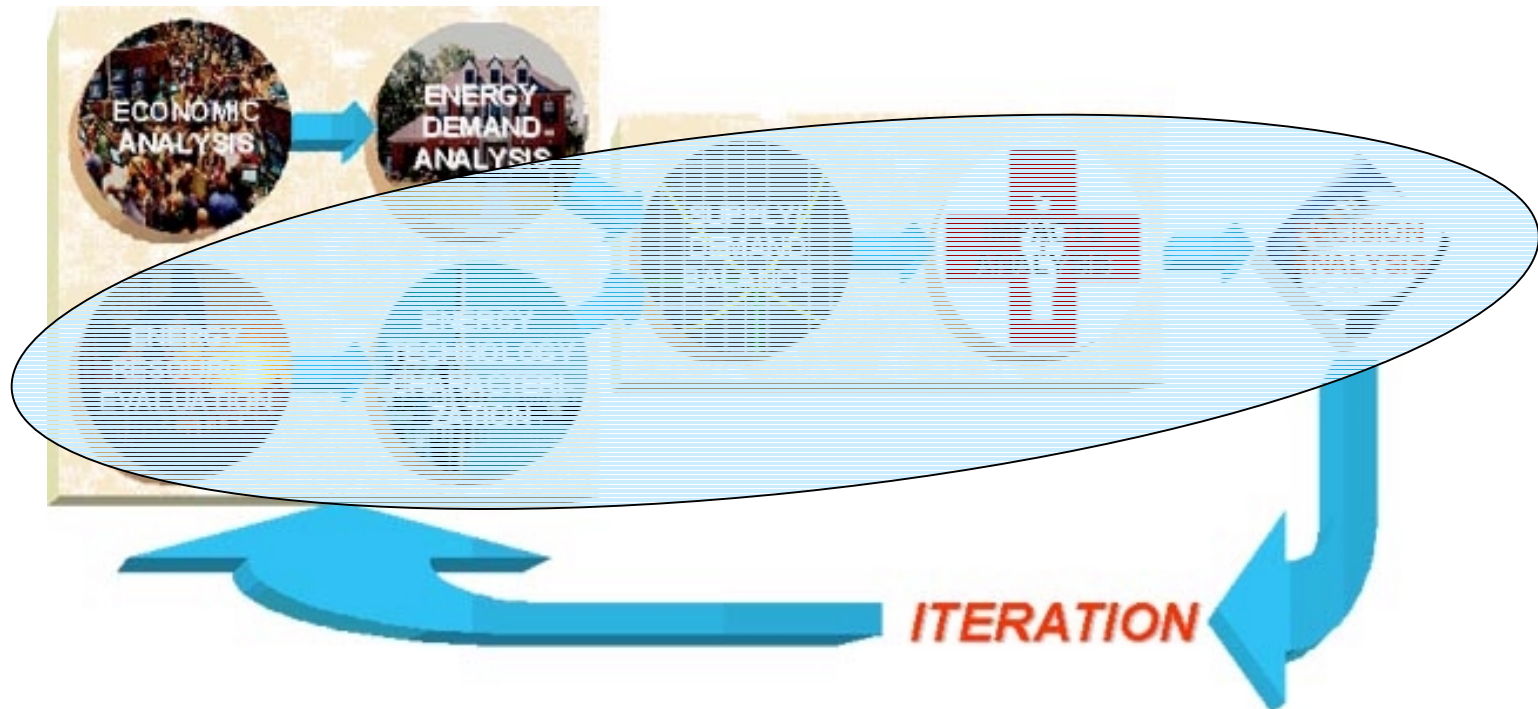
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- **Energy demand driven**
- **Multiple reactors, fuels and fuel cycle facilities**
  - Flexible combination of reactors and fuels allowing simulation of symbiotic nuclear energy systems
  - Different fuel cycle options varying in time
  - Fissile material feedback
- **Full fuel cycle mass-flow analysis**
- **Economics**
  - Capital, O&M and Fuel Cycle costs
- **Intra-nuclear market penetration model**
- **Other models**
  - *Technology development*
  - *Learning curve*
  - ...



# Positioning

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- **Integrated nuclear process model**
- **Communication tool !**
  - Fast, easy-to-use, transparent !

The flowchart illustrates the NEDSS architecture, showing the flow of information and decision-making processes. It is organized into several interconnected components:

- Inputs and Context:**
  - Energy Demand** (Yellow box) leads to **Nuclear Energy Demand Scenario** (Yellow box).
  - Non-nuclear Energy Sources** (Orange box), **Option Theory** (Orange box), and **Market Penetration** (Orange box) are listed on the left.
  - Costing Models** (Orange box) is at the bottom left.
  - MS-Access Input Data** (Yellow cylinder) and **MS-Excel Output Files** (Yellow stack of papers) are at the bottom.
- Core Decision and Financial Models:**
  - Nuclear Energy Demand Scenario** (Yellow box) leads to **Utility Sector Finances** (Orange box) and **New Reactor Capacity Decision** (Yellow box).
  - Utility Sector Finances** (Orange box) leads to **Energy Cost** (Yellow box) and **Fuel Cycle Option Decision** (Yellow box).
  - New Reactor Capacity Decision** (Yellow box) leads to **Fuel Cycle Option Decision** (Yellow box).
  - Reactor History** (Yellow box) and **Reactor Technology Development** (Yellow box) are connected to **New Reactor Capacity Decision** (Yellow box) with bidirectional arrows.
  - Fuel Cycle Option Decision** (Yellow box) leads to **Fuel Cycle Mass-flow** (Yellow box) and **New Fuel Cycle Facility Decision** (Yellow box).
  - Utility Sector Finances** (Orange box) also leads to **Fuel Cycle Mass-flow** (Yellow box).
- Cost and Financial Calculations:**
  - Fuel Cycle Mass-flow** (Yellow box) leads to **Fuel Cycle Cost** (Yellow box).
  - U Price** (Yellow box) leads to **Fuel Cycle Cost** (Yellow box).
  - Fuel Cycle Cost** (Yellow box) leads to **Energy Cost** (Yellow box).
  - New Fuel Cycle Facility Decision** (Yellow box) leads to **Fuel Cycle Facility History** (Yellow box) and **Fuel Cycle Facility Technology Development** (Yellow box).
  - Fuel Cycle Facility History** (Yellow box) and **Fuel Cycle Facility Technology Development** (Yellow box) are connected to **New Fuel Cycle Facility Decision** (Yellow box) with bidirectional arrows.
- External and Policy Factors:**
  - Rest of World** (Yellow box), **Government Role** (Orange box), **Financial Accounting** (Orange box), **Environmental Impact** (Orange box), **Performance Indices** (Yellow box), and **Boundary Conditions** (Yellow box) are listed on the right.
  - LCA** (Orange box), **Multi-Attribute Decision Analysis** (Orange box), and **Non-Proliferation** (Orange box) are listed on the far right.

# ***Simulation features***

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- **Discrete simulation of nuclear energy systems, i.e.:**
  - Fuel loading per batch
  - Distinction initial core loads and reloads
  - Time-lags in fuel cycle
  - Time-lags in ordering, building ... decommissioning reactors, fuel cycle plants, ...
  - Periodic financial accounting
  - Forecasting of fuel / fissile material needs
  - ...

# ***Energy Demand Driven***

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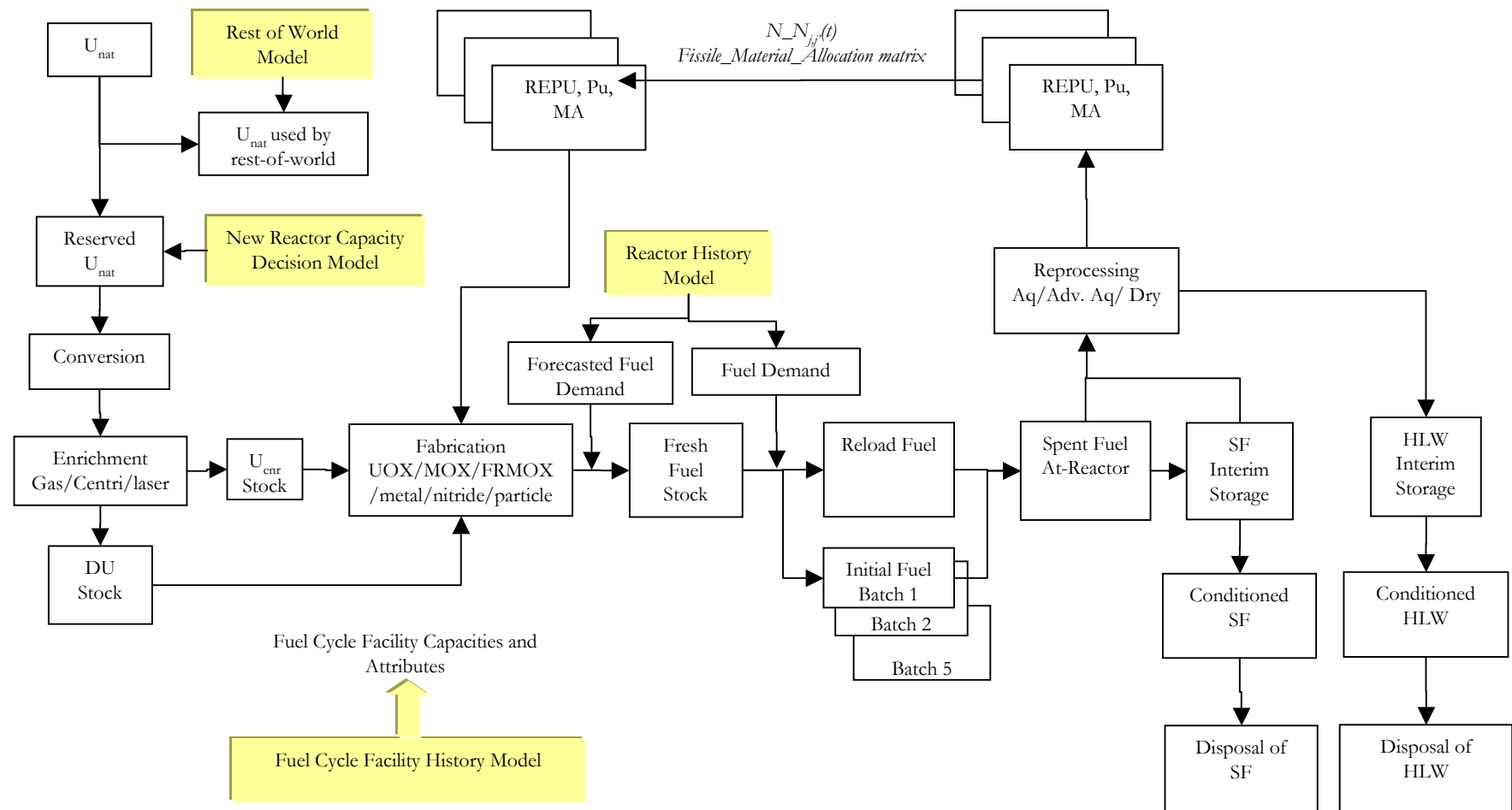
- **Energy demand driven dynamic analysis of nuclear energy systems**
  - Energy demand by:
    - *World, Region, Country*
    - *According to IIASA/WECC, IAEA/NEA scenarios, user-defined*
- **Initial conditions**
  - Existing reactor park based on IAEA/NEA RDS-1 and Brown Book data (annually updated)
    - *Attribute Database for reactor types (AGR, BWR, FR, GCR, HTGR, HWGCR, HWLWR, LWGR, PHWR, PWR, SGHWR, WWER, GFR, LMR, ADS, ...)*
    - *Attribute Database for fuel cycle facilities*

# ***Reactor & Fuel Cycle Model***

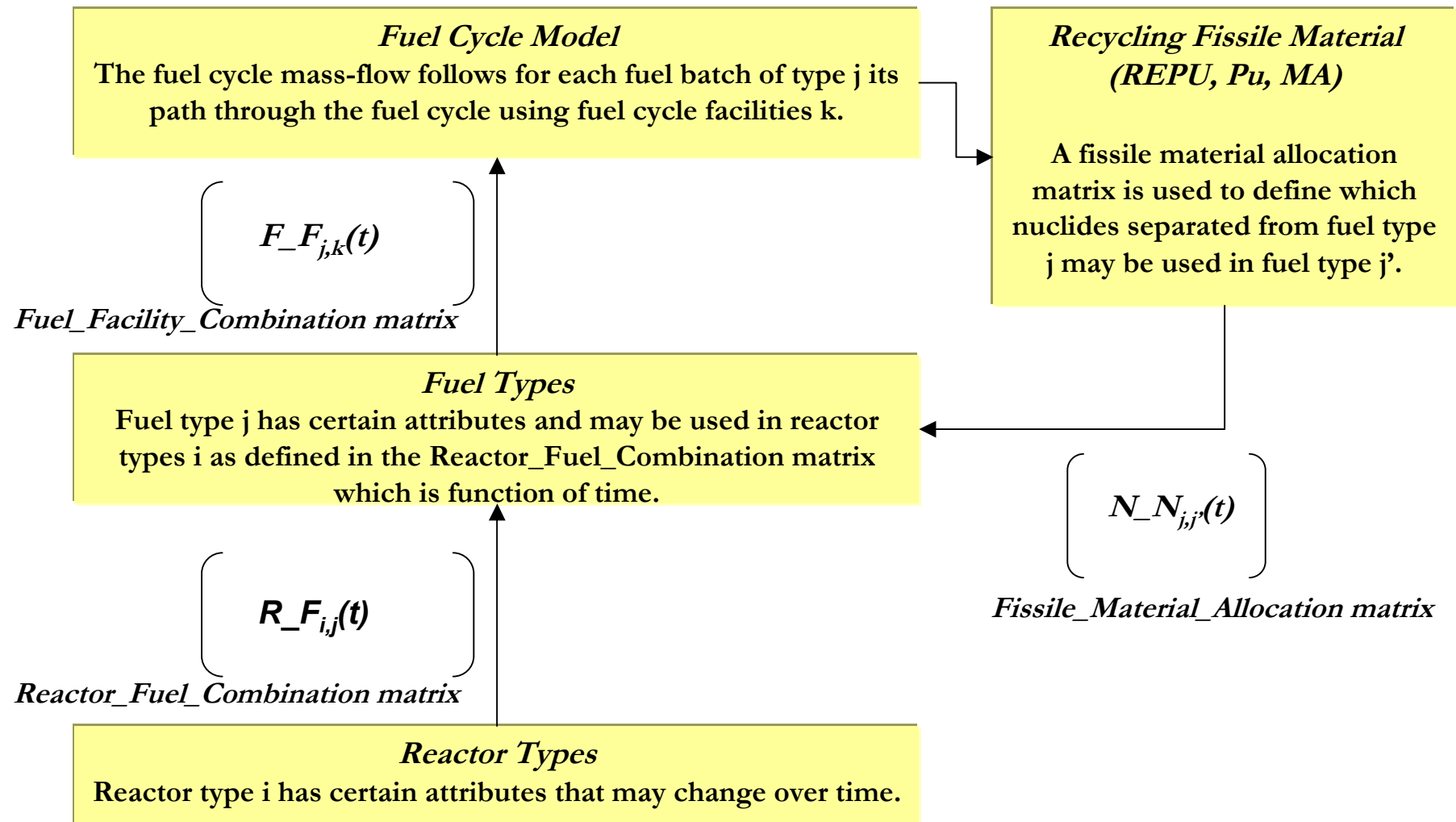
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- **Current development version allows:**
  - To model 20 reactor types & 20 fuel types
    - *In time-varying reactor/fuel combinations*
  - Following reactor history per reactor type
  - Analysis of equilibrium as well as initial reactor fuel loading
  - To follow fuel cycle operations (21 steps) for each fuel batch per fuel type
  - Cross flow of fissile materials between fuel types
  - Each fuel type may vary in fuel cycle option
  - To follow U, DU, REPU, Pu, MA (Np, Am, Cm), FP (SLFP, LLFP) inventories

# Fuel Cycle Model



# Reactor, fuel and fuel cycle are uncoupled (allows symbiosis)



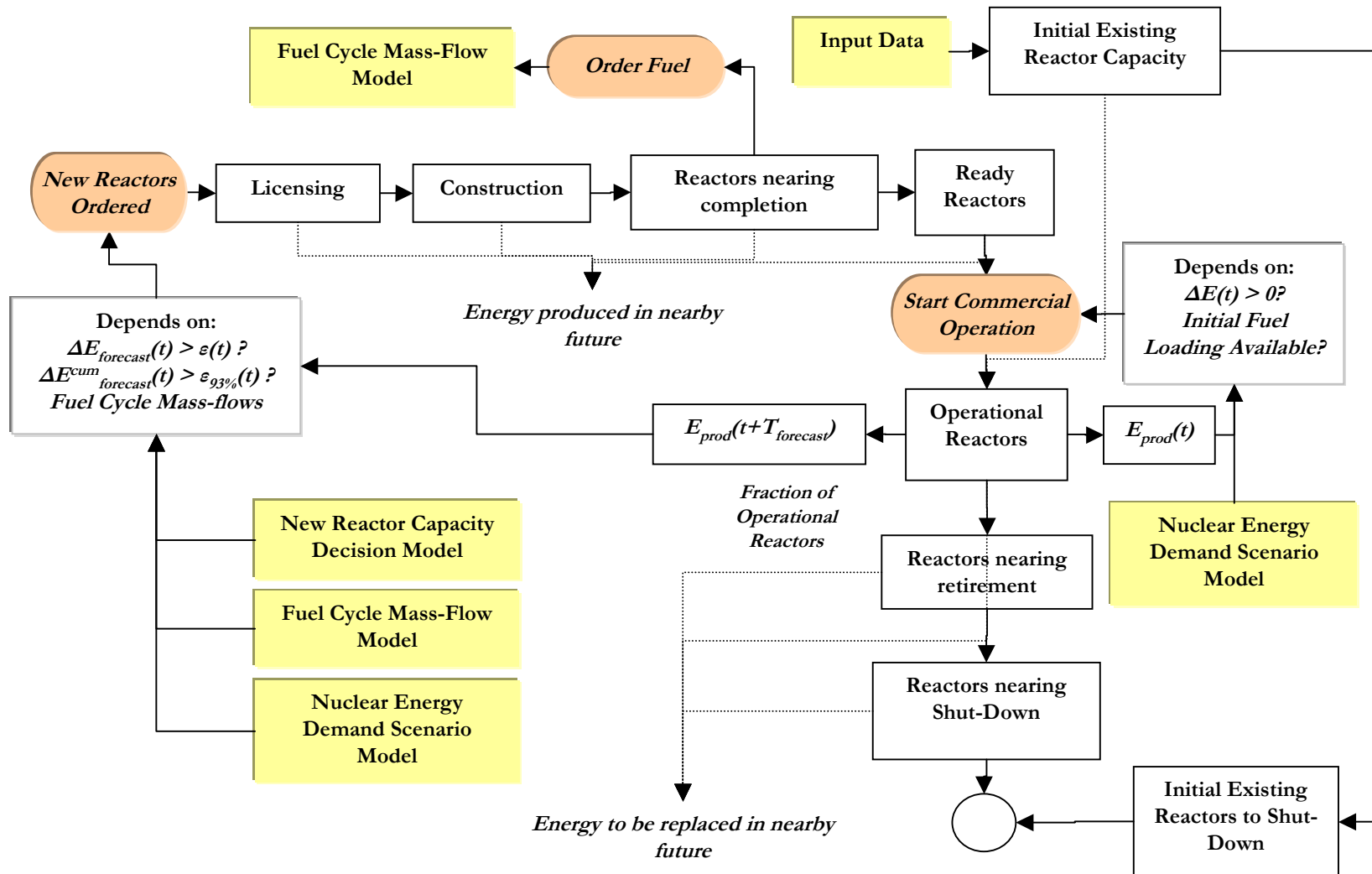
# ***New Reactors Decision Making***

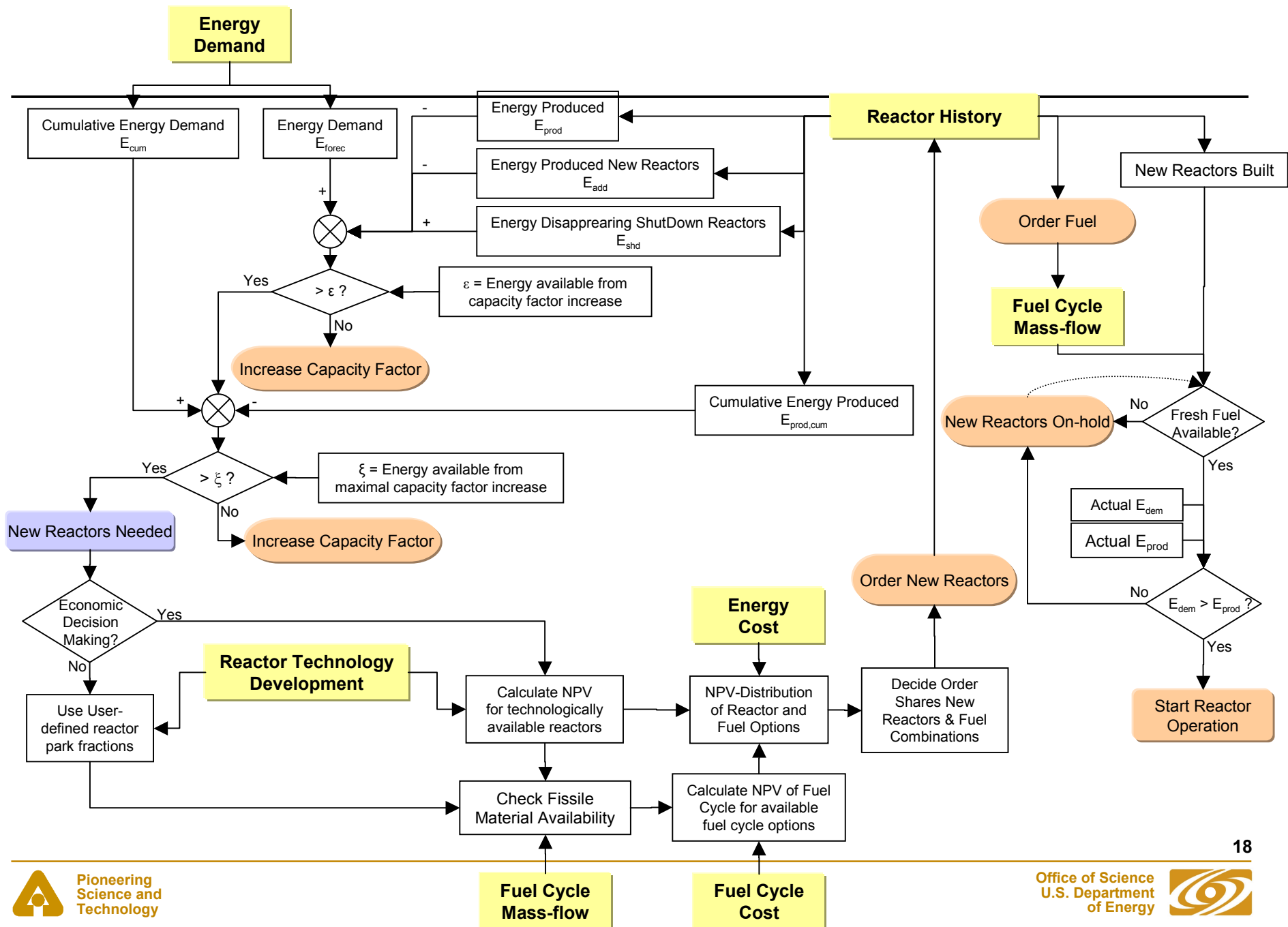
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- **New reactors may be ordered as function of:**
  - Possible increase load-factor operational reactors
  - Technological availability of reactors
  - Availability of fissile material
  - Economic performance
  - Investment potential utility sector



# Reactors follow a life path





# Economics

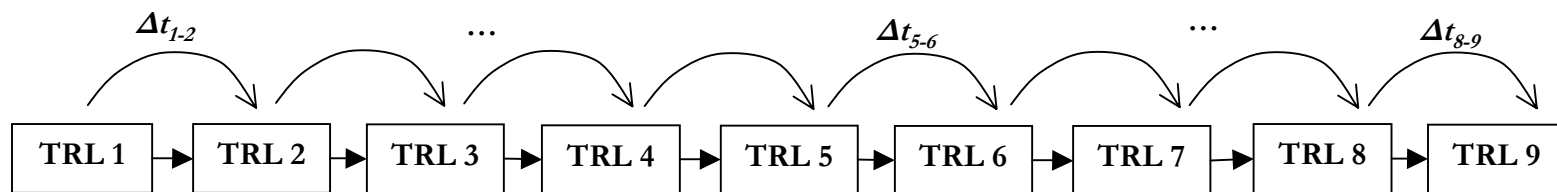
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- **Actual energy costs (\$/kWh)**
- **(Net) Present Values**
  - Account of federal, state, local, sales taxes
  - Capital
    - *Construction*
    - *Capital charges*
    - *Other (overnight) costs*
    - *Decommissioning*
    - *Contingencies*
  - O&M
  - Fuel Cycle
    - *Owning or leasing fuel*
    - *Waste fees*
- **Financial Accounting keeps track of the revenues and expenses for each reactor, facility and owner**

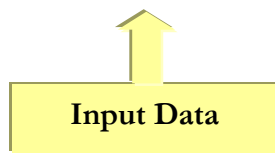
## ***Other parts of the code***

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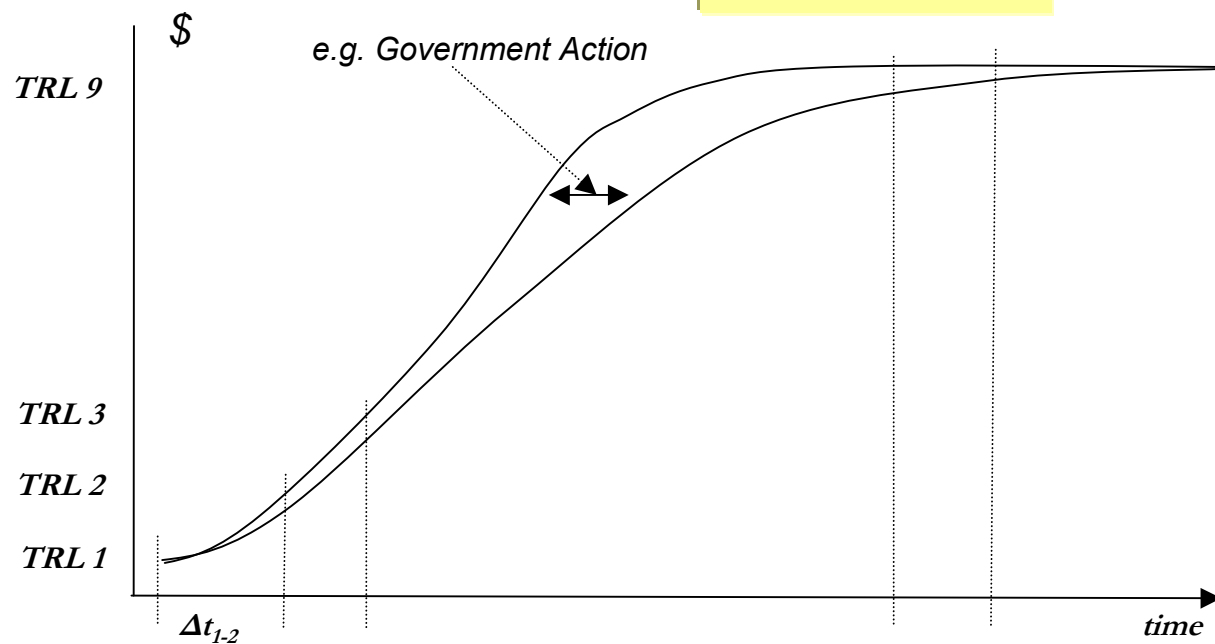
- **Experience curves**
  - Cost, timing, losses
- **Inventories**
  - In cycle, reactor, disposal
- **Environmental impact**
  - Natural resources (LCA)
  - Secondary waste
  - Radiological Impact
- **Non-proliferation**
- **Competition with other energy sources**
- **Link with macro-economic models**
  - Market penetration

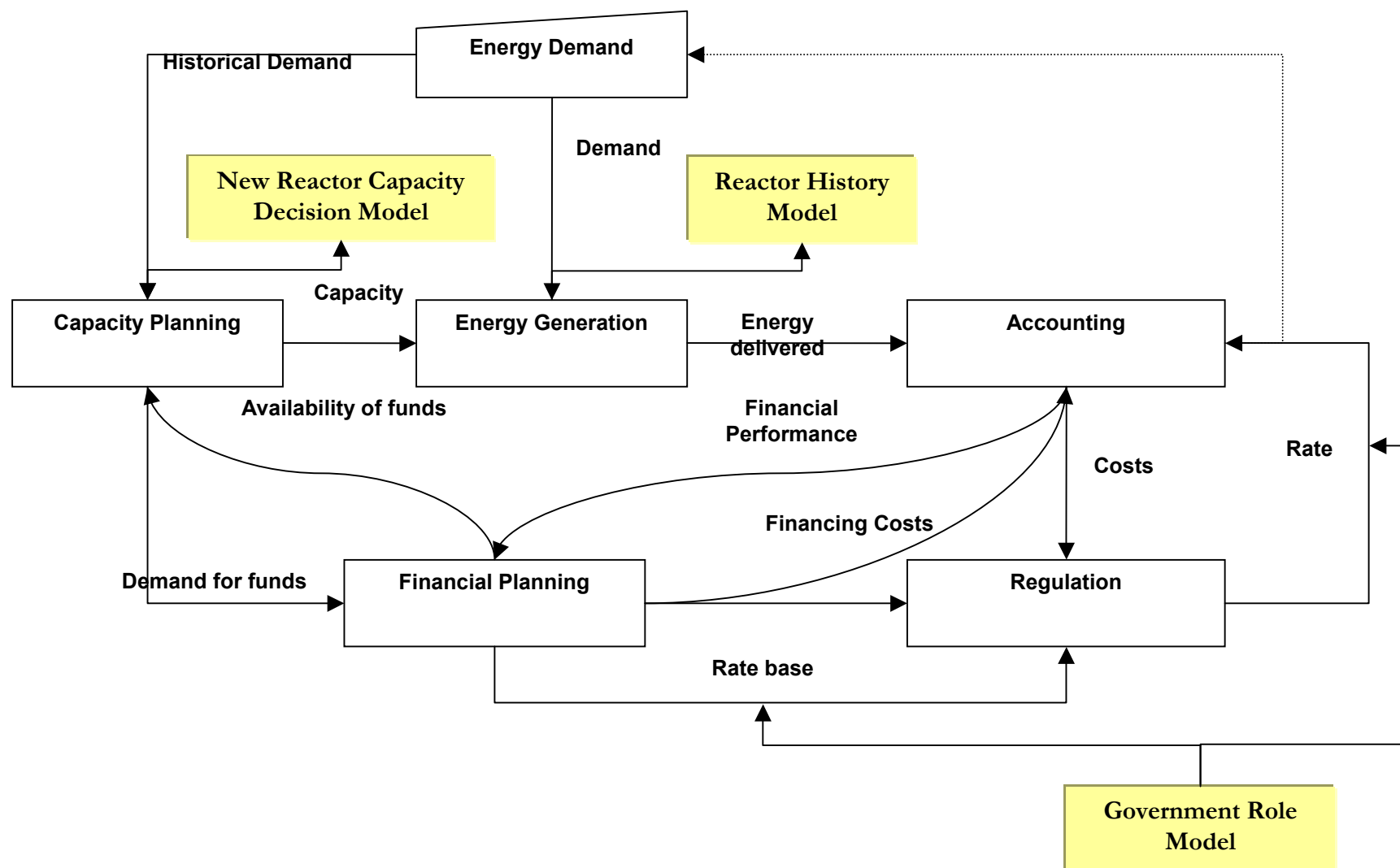


Reactor Attributes  
Initial TRLs

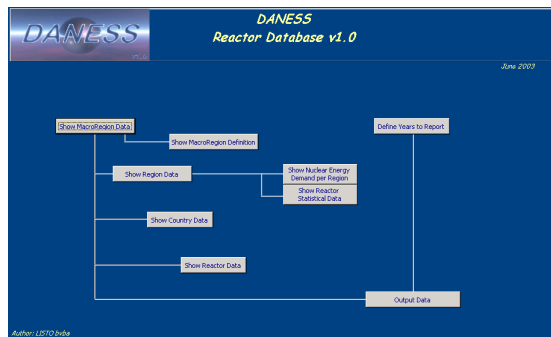


New Reactor Capacity  
Decision Model





# Coupled databases



- **History of existing and planned reactors**
  - Including statistics
  - Annually updated



- **Attributes of reactors, fuels and fuel cycle facilities**
  - Including references
  - Regularly updated



# Validation

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- **Three distinct steps:**
  - *Verification of calculations*
    - < 1 % error-margin with identical input-data
    - < 5 to 15 % error-margin
  - *Verification/Benchmarking of separate sub-models*
  - *Continuous benchmarking with other codes*

Fuel cycle cost (mills <sub>1991</sub> /kWhe)	NEA	DANESS	Difference (%)
<i>Once-through fuel cycle</i>	5.46	5.31	-2.7
Front-end	4.70	4.52	-3.8
Back-end	0.76	0.79	+3.9
Credits	0.0	-	
<i>Pu mono recycle fuel cycle</i>	6.23	5.85	-6.1
Front-end	4.70	4.27	-9.1
Back-end	1.79	1.58	-11.7
Credits	-0.26	-	-

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# ***Intended Use***

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- **Analysis of development paths for nuclear energy**
- **Integrated process model**
- **Parameter scoping for new designs**
- **Economic analysis of nuclear energy systems**
- **Government role**
- **Educational use**

# Continuous Development



*Users-Group*

*Developments*

## ***Macro-economic energy modelling***

**DIAS**

## ***Life-Cycle Analysis***

## ***Utility Finances / Economics***

**Derivatives use**

**Utility / Engineering**

## ***Waste Management***

**Repository impact**

## ***Sociology***

**Risk perception, NP**



# Conclusions

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- **A new tool has been developed for the technical-economic assessments of nuclear energy systems**
  - Easy-to-use and quick
  - PC/Mac platform
  - Customizable for users
  - Extensive database support
- ***Continuous development to become a standard for technical-economic assessments of nuclear energy systems***